

## CIA NEVER LINKED TO PEACE CORPS

### Shriver Says Steps Were Taken To Prevent Tie

By ALBERT SEHLSTEDT, JR.  
(Washington Bureau of The Sun)  
Washington, March 26 — The Peace Corps took great pains when it was organized to avoid involvement with the Central Intelligence Agency, it was reported today.

The statement was made by Sargent Shriver, now director of the Office of Economic Opportunity and the first director of the Peace Corps when it was established in 1961.

Shriver discussed the matter briefly on the NBC radio and television program, "Meet The Press," which was broadcast today.

#### Why "Extreme Pains"?

He was asked near the end of the broadcast why the Peace Corps had apparently gone to "extreme pains" to assure its separation from the CIA.

"First of all, I'd like to say that is correct," Shriver replied. "We did take extreme pains."

"We got a commitment from the director of the Central Intelligence Agency at that time—first Mr. Dulles and then Mr. McCone—that under no circumstances would the CIA attempt to use Peace Corps volunteers or the organization for any of their purposes."

Allen W. Dulles was director of the CIA from 1953 to 1961, and John A. McCone headed the organization from 1961 to 1965.

#### "Very Simple"

Shriver said the reason for the commitment was "very simple."

"We felt that if we were to attract the kind of volunteers which the Peace Corps would need in order to be successful, we had to be able to assure them that they were not being used for ulterior purposes," he said.

"We tried to play it exactly square and on the level and honestly with everybody who joined or thought about joining. We thought that was the only way to deal with the American people."

The CIA was the object of considerable criticism last month following reports of secret subsidies to the National Students Association to counter Soviet-controlled student groups at international meetings.

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